



JOHN ROMAN
JR. MAYER

MARVEL 5
LGY#305

MAC KAY • STEGMAN
MAYER • LIVESAY • GRACIA

RATED T+

BORN WITH INCREDIBLE SUPERHUMAN ABILITIES, MUTANTS HAVE LONG BEEN PERSECUTED FOR THEIR DIFFERENCES. THE MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN WERE TRAINED BY PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER TO USE THEIR POWERS TO PROTECT THE WORLD THAT HATES AND FEARS THEM AND TO BRIDGE THE GROWING DIVIDE BETWEEN HUMANITY AND MUTANTKIND.

X-MEN



The **X-Men** have been investigating a series of unusual X-Gene activations among adults. When new mutant **Ben Liu** lost control of his power to warp reality, the X-Men faked his death and brought him to **the Factory**, their new headquarters in Alaska. Ben remains in a coma after his ordeal, while the X-Men continue to delve into the mystery of his mutant activation...

If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide, or are worried about a friend or loved one, please reach out to a counselor or someone you trust or dial 988 for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

“PSYCHIC RESCUE IN PROGRESS”

WRITER

JED MACKAY

INKERS

**JP MAYER, LIVESAY
& RYAN STEGMAN**

LETTERER

VC’s CLAYTON COWLES

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

ALESSANDRO CAPPuccio & MARTE GRACIA; ELIZABETH TORQUE & FEDERICO BLEE; J. SCOTT CAMPBELL & TANYA LEHOX

PENCILER

RYAN STEGMAN

COLORIST

MARTE GRACIA

COVER ARTISTS

**RYAN STEGMAN,
JP MAYER &
MARTE GRACIA**



CYCLOPS



BEAST



MAGNETO



PSYLOCKE



KID OMEGA



TEMPER



MAGIK



JUGGERNAUT

JAY BOWEN – Design MARTIN BIRO – Assistant Editor
ANNALISE BISSA – Associate Editor TOM BREVOORT – Editor
C.B. CEBULSKI – Editor in Chief
X-MEN Created by STAN LEE and JACK KIRBY

ALASKA.

KWANNON.

YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO GO.

YES,
I DO.

WHY?

BECAUSE
OF WHAT--WHO
I AM.

I WAS MADE TO BE A
TOOL, JOHN GREYCROW,
JUST LIKE YOU WERE.
A **WEAPON**.

HONED
SHARP, GIVEN
A KILLING
EDGE.

THAT'S
BEHIND ME
NOW.

BUT A
TOOL NEEDS
A **PURPOSE**,
AND THAT WILL
ALWAYS BE
WITH ME.



**THE FACTORY.
MERLE, ALASKA.**

YOU'RE
LATE!

I AM
ON TIME.

EARLY IS
ON TIME. ON TIME
IS LATE.

WHEN YOU
FINALLY EXHAUST MY
PATIENCE, QUENTIN QUIRE,
I WON'T EVEN *BOTHER*
TO MAKE YOUR MURDER
LOOK LIKE AN
ACCIDENT.

BECAUSE
NO ONE WILL
CARE.

PFFT.

SABRETOOTH
CUT MY HEAD OFF
AND CARRIED IT
AROUND IN A
BOX.*

FORGIVE ME IF
YOUR DEATH THREAT
DOESN'T EXACTLY HAVE
ME *QUAKING* IN
MY KICKS.

"PFFT"
YOURSELF.

SABRETOOTH
HAD NO SUBTLETY.
I'M TRAINED. I'M A
PROFESSIONAL.

CLUNG

*SEE WOLVERINE #41! --TOM



PLEASE DO ME
A FAVOR...

...CAN
YOU **NOT** TAKE
WHATEVER **THIS** IS
WITH YOU INTO
THIS MAN'S
BRAIN?



NO
PROMISES,
SLIM.

DON'T
CALL ME
THAT.

MISSION
OVERVIEW,
SCOTT.



WAKE
BEN LIU FROM
HIS COMA.

STABILIZE
HIS MENTAL
STATE.

AND BRING
BACK SOME
HARD INTEL ON
WHAT ACTIVATED
HIS X-GENE.



UNDERSTOOD.



UGH.

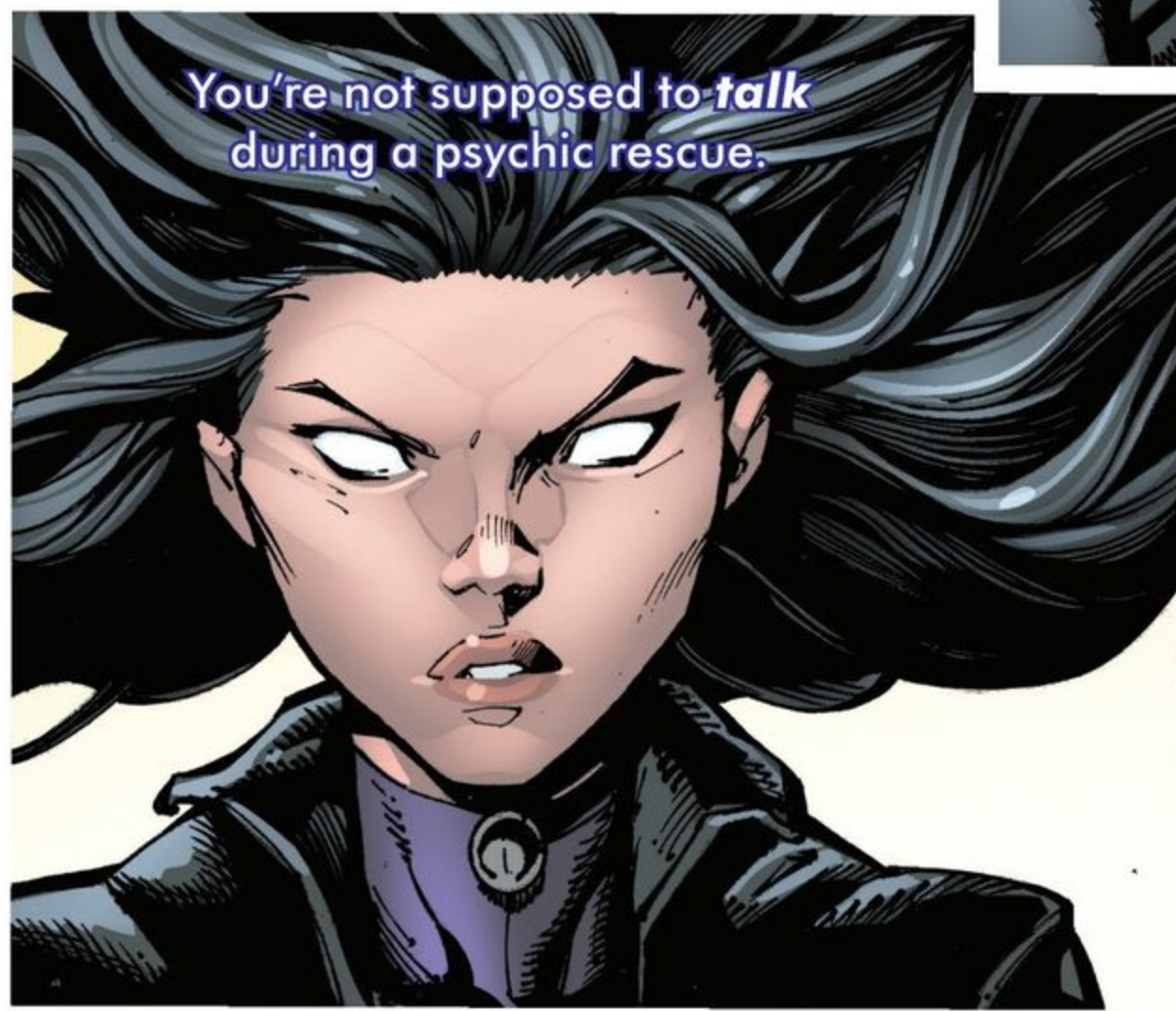
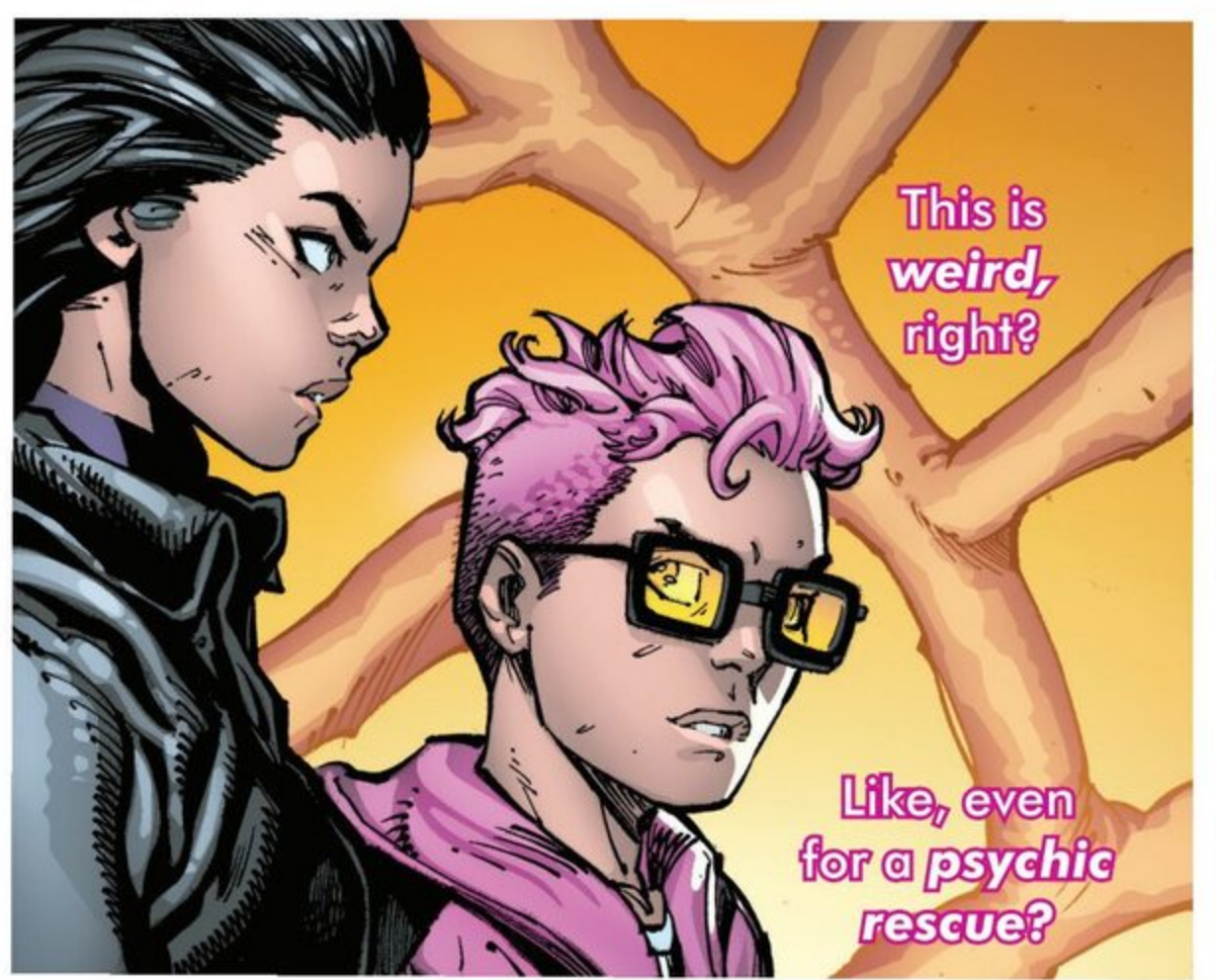
HEY, I DON'T
LIKE IT ANY MORE
THAN YOU DO.

WE'RE BOTH
PSYCHICS.

YOU KNOW
THAT I KNOW THAT
YOU'RE LYING.

I KNOW, BUT
I HAVE TO SAY
IT ANYWAY.





Sooo...

Alien stuff...you
think he actually
was abducted by
aliens?

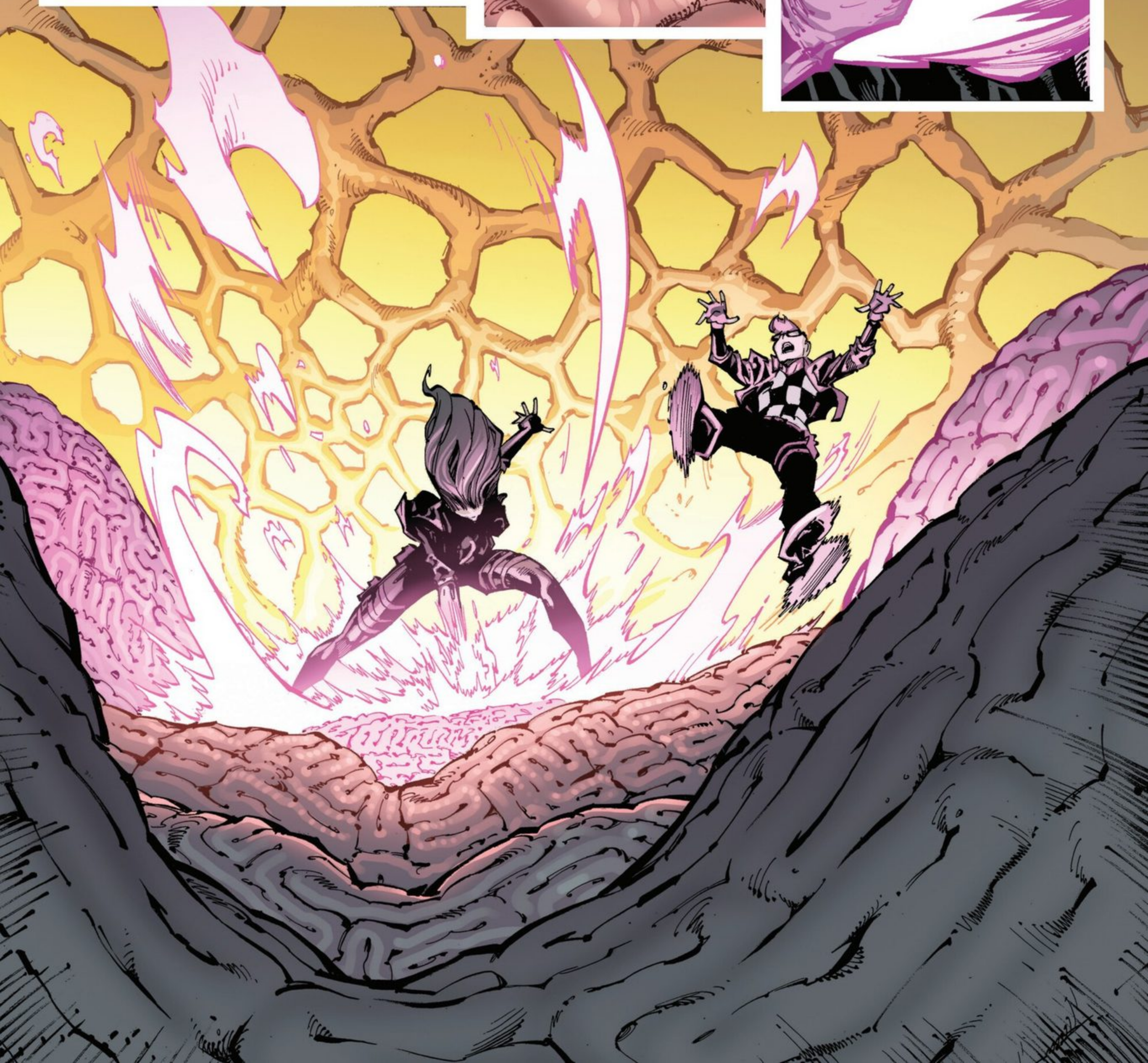
No.

This is *trauma*.
Set dressing.
Surface.

We need to
go *deeper*.

Brace
yourself.

No,
wait--





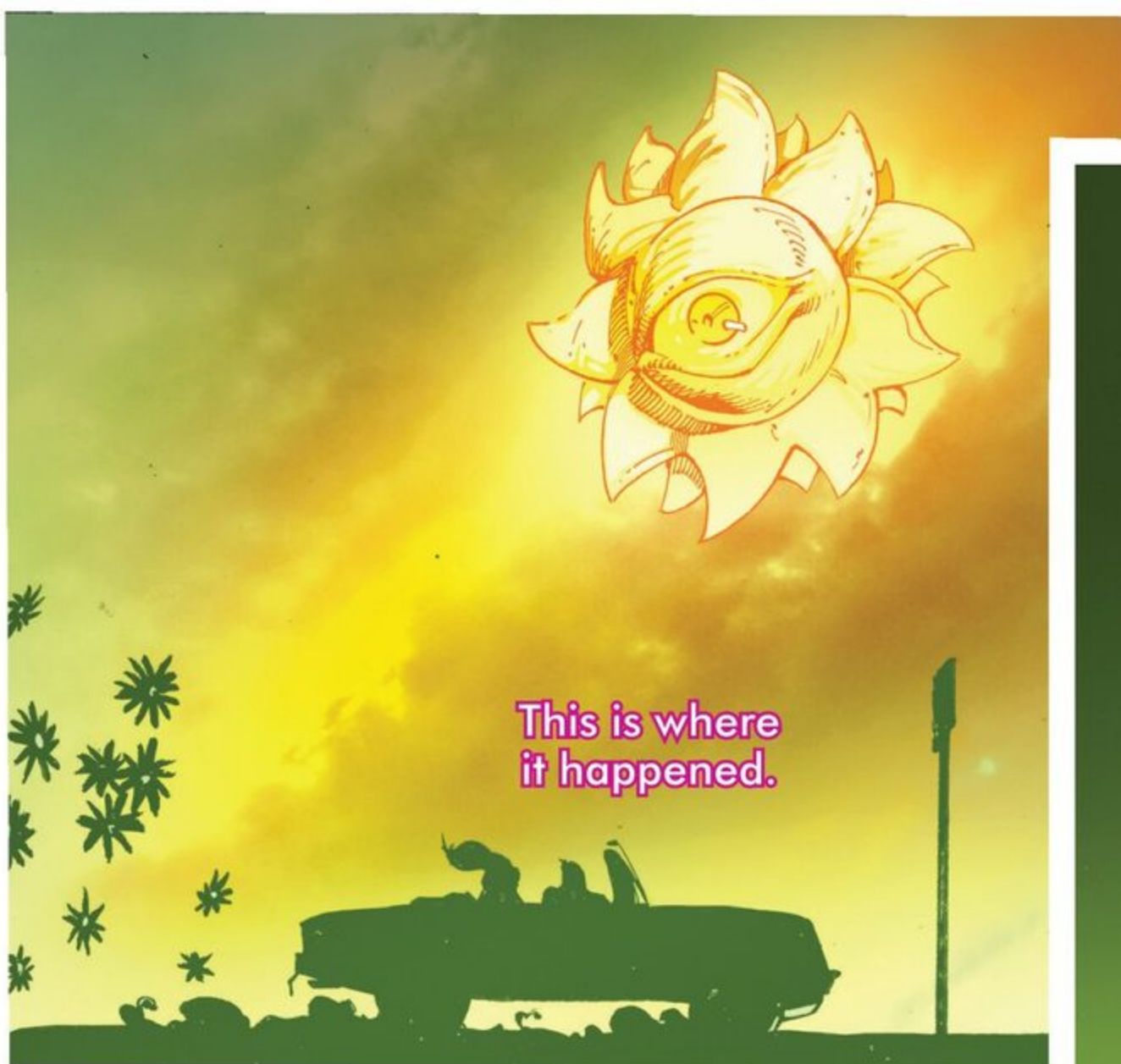


Let's move
things *along*.

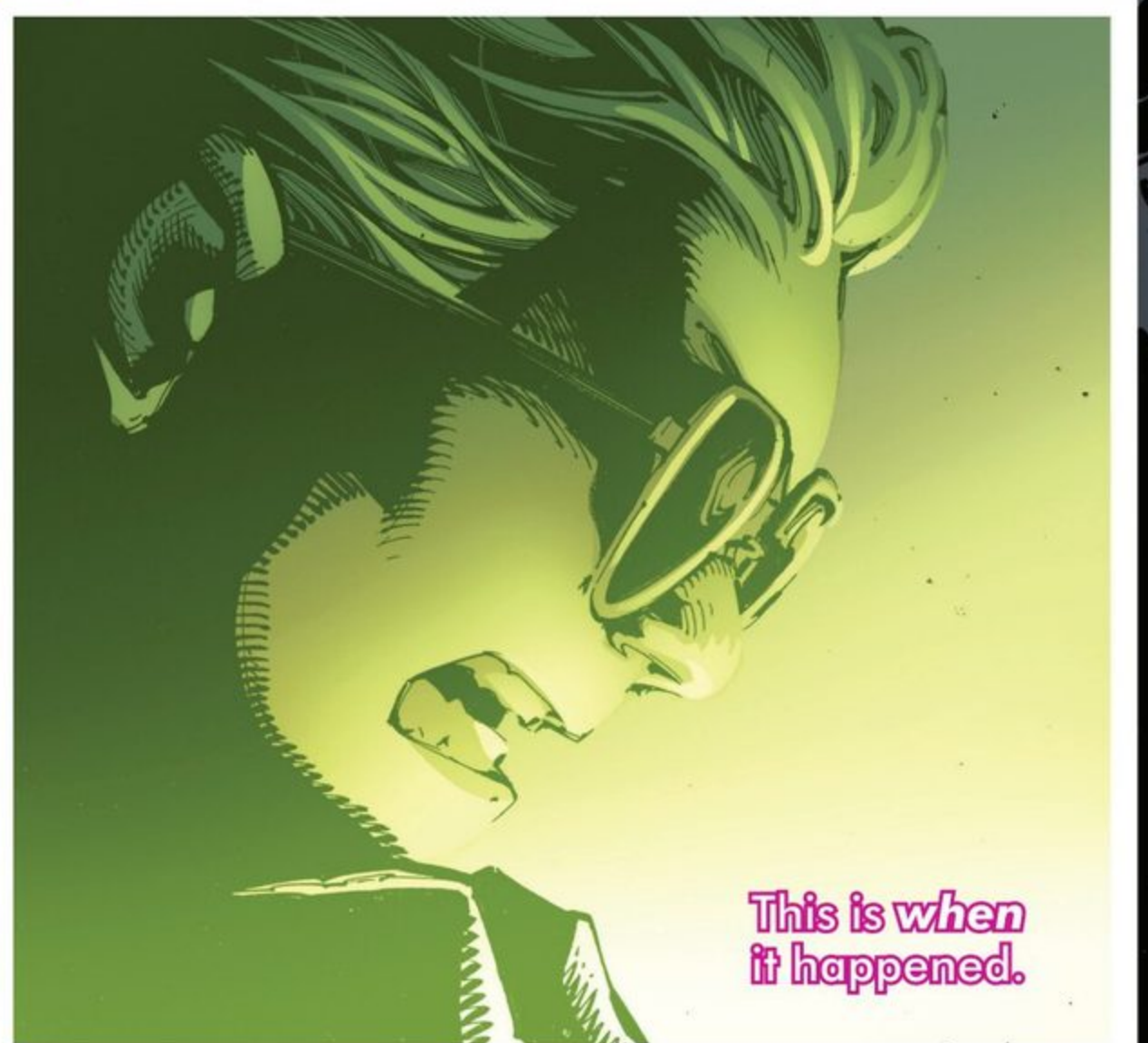


Where?

Pacific Coast
Highway.

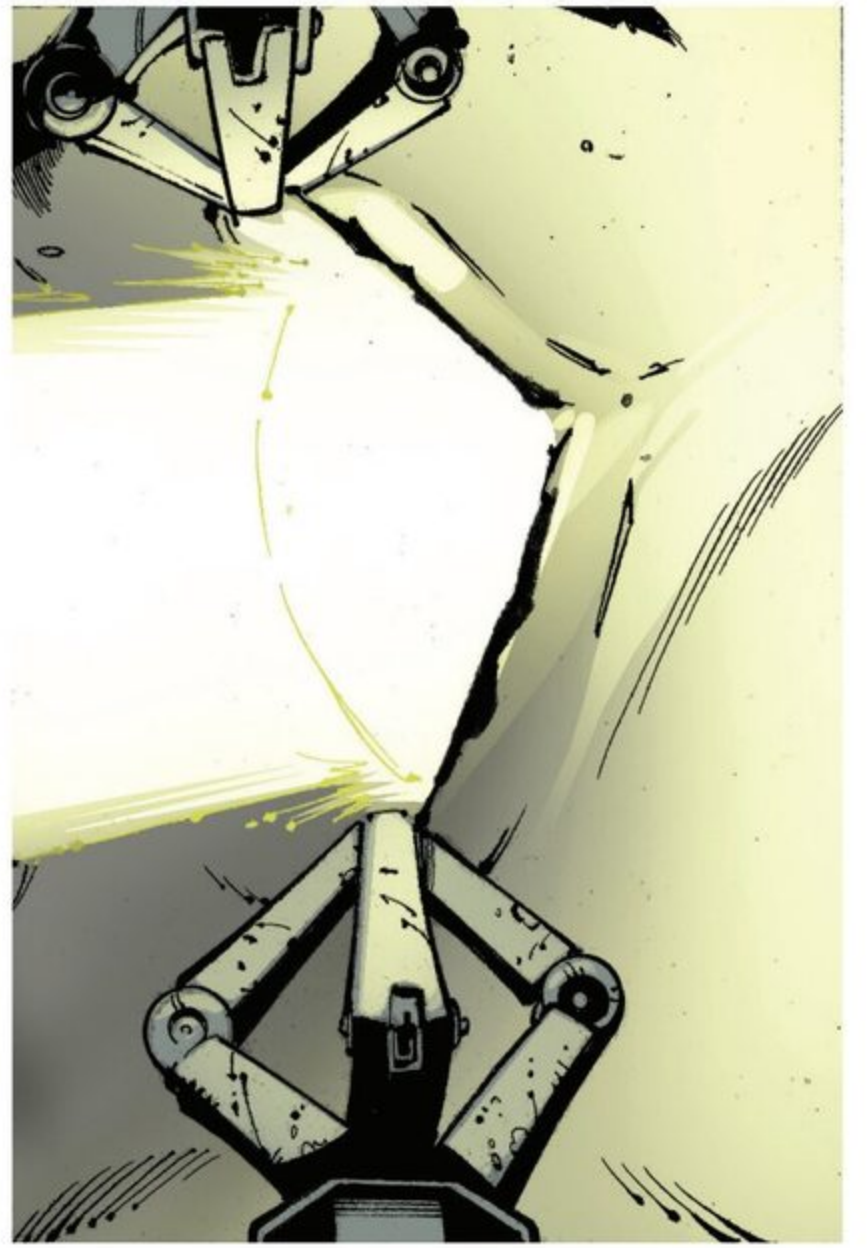
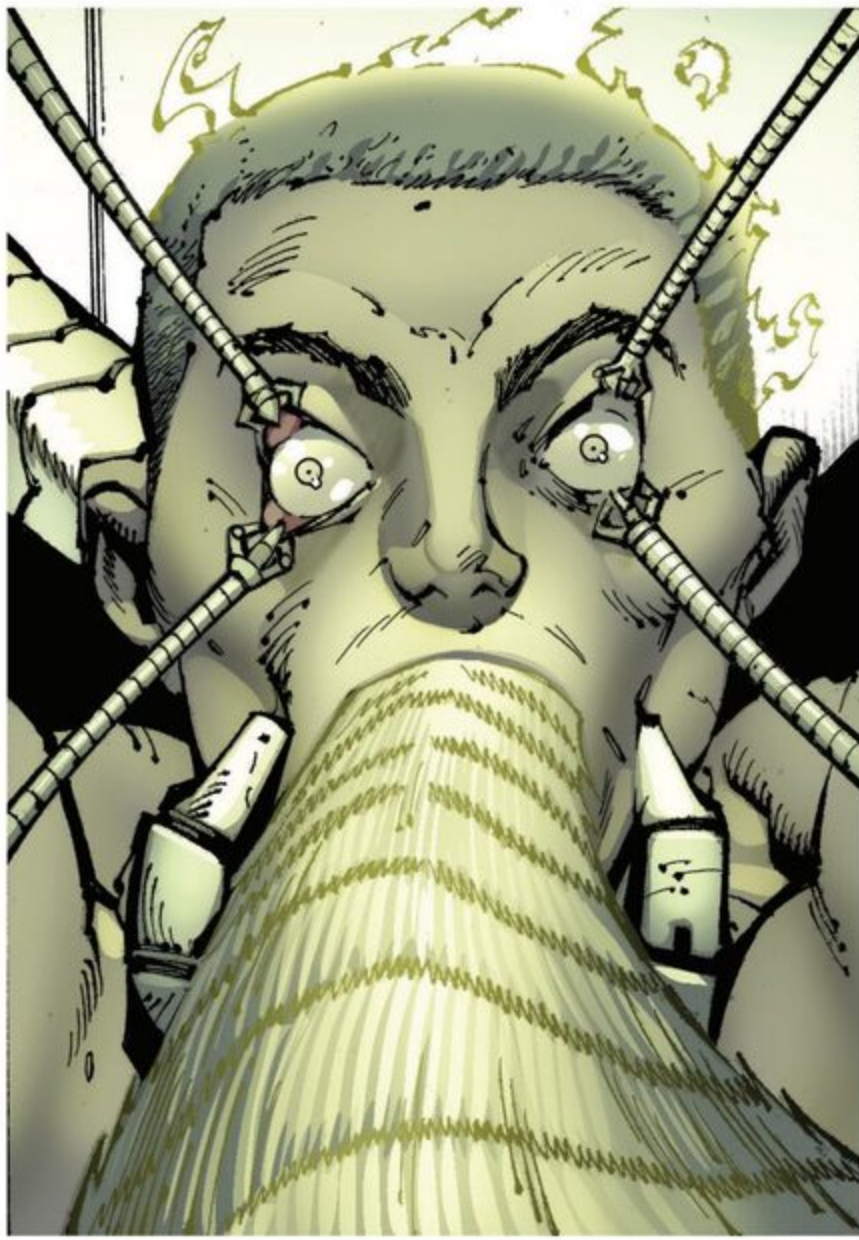


This is where
it happened.



This is when
it happened.





They tortured
him. Experimented
on him.

"Aliens," my
ass, those are
people--

I can't see
who they
are--





Going to
cook you
alive--



Quentin, you're
too strong, and
Liu's too weak!

If you unleash
in here, you'll
kill us all!



WELL,
LOOK WHO
IT IS.



No, no, no,
no, no, no--



HI THERE,
BOY.

SABRETOOTH--!

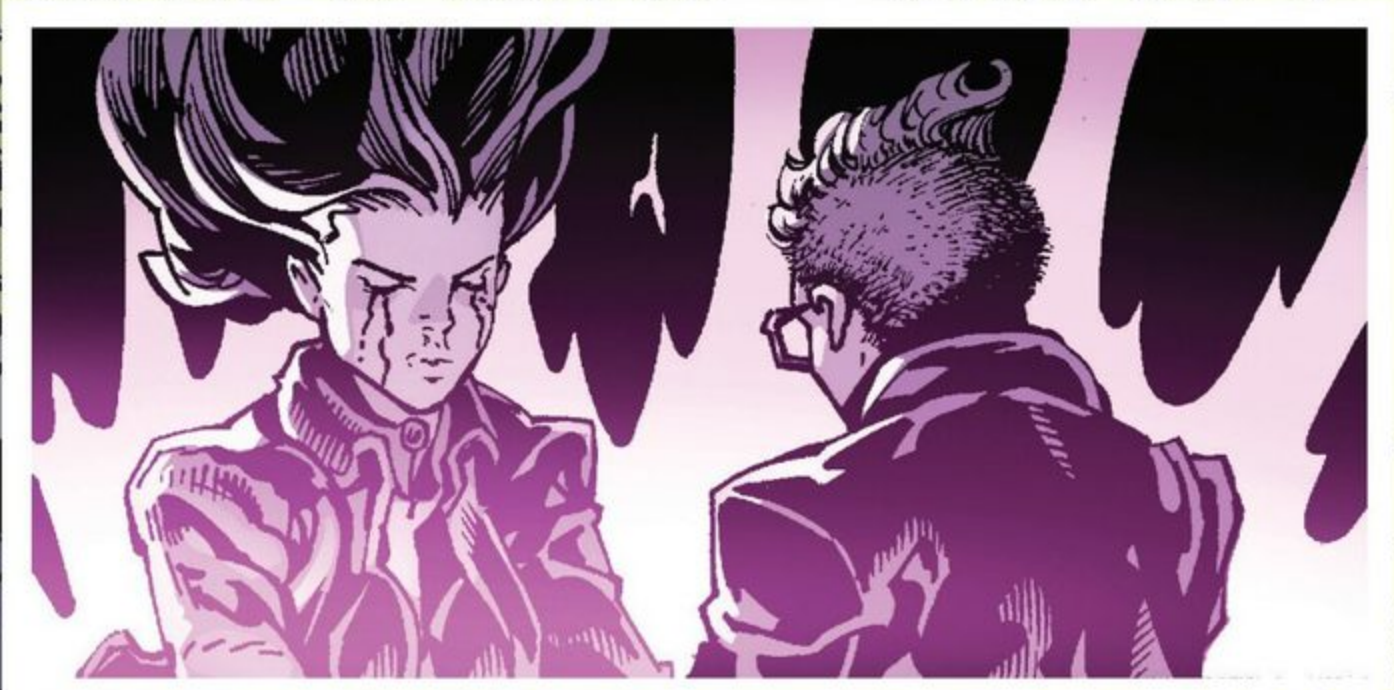


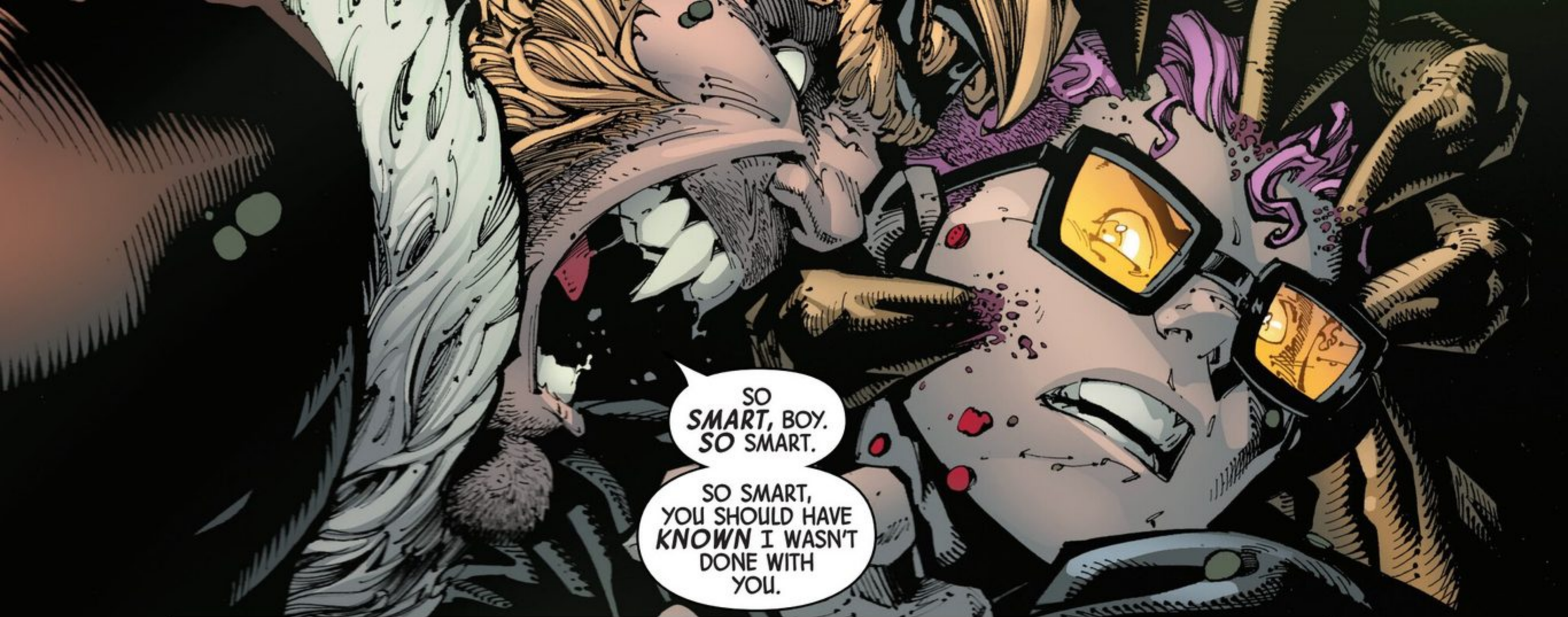
"WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE US
SOME FUN."

Ugkk

Ugggkk

Uggkk





SO
SMART, BOY.
SO SMART.

SO SMART,
YOU SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN I WASN'T
DONE WITH
YOU.



EVERYONE
ELSE LEAVES YOU,
QUENTIN QUIRE.

WOLVERINE
JOINED THE OTHER
X-MEN.

PHOEBE
WENT TO NEW
YORK.

EVEN YOUR
OWN PARENTS
THREW YOU AWAY LIKE
TRASH--COULD SMELL THE
STINK OF FAILURE ON
YOU LIKE EVERYONE
ELSE.



BUT DON'T
WORRY ABOUT
A THING.

OLD
SABRETOOTH
WILL NEVER LEAVE
YOU, NOT
EVER.

YOU'LL
NEVER GET
ME OUT OF THAT
BRAIN OF
YOURS.



SO LET'S GET THAT
HEAD OFF YOUR
NECK AND BACK IN A
BOX WHERE IT
BELONGS.



JOHN,
WHAT *IS*
THIS--?



THIS IS
WHERE IT WAS
ALWAYS GOING
TO END UP,
KWANNON.

YOU WERE
RIGHT WHEN
YOU SAID WE WERE
WEAPONS. *MADE*
INTO WEAPONS.

BUT YOU
WERE ALSO
WRONG.



THERE'S NO
GETTING BETTER
FOR *US*.

THE ONLY
WAY A *WEAPON*
GETS *BETTER* IS BY
KILLING PEOPLE
FASTER.



THE ONLY THING *WANTING*
TO GET BETTER MEANS IS THAT
WE'RE *BROKEN* WEAPONS.
USELESS.

AND THERE'S
NO PLACE IN
THIS WORLD FOR
A WEAPON WITH
NO USE.



YOU'LL
SEE.

AND THEN
YOU'LL DO THE
SAME THING.

JOHN--



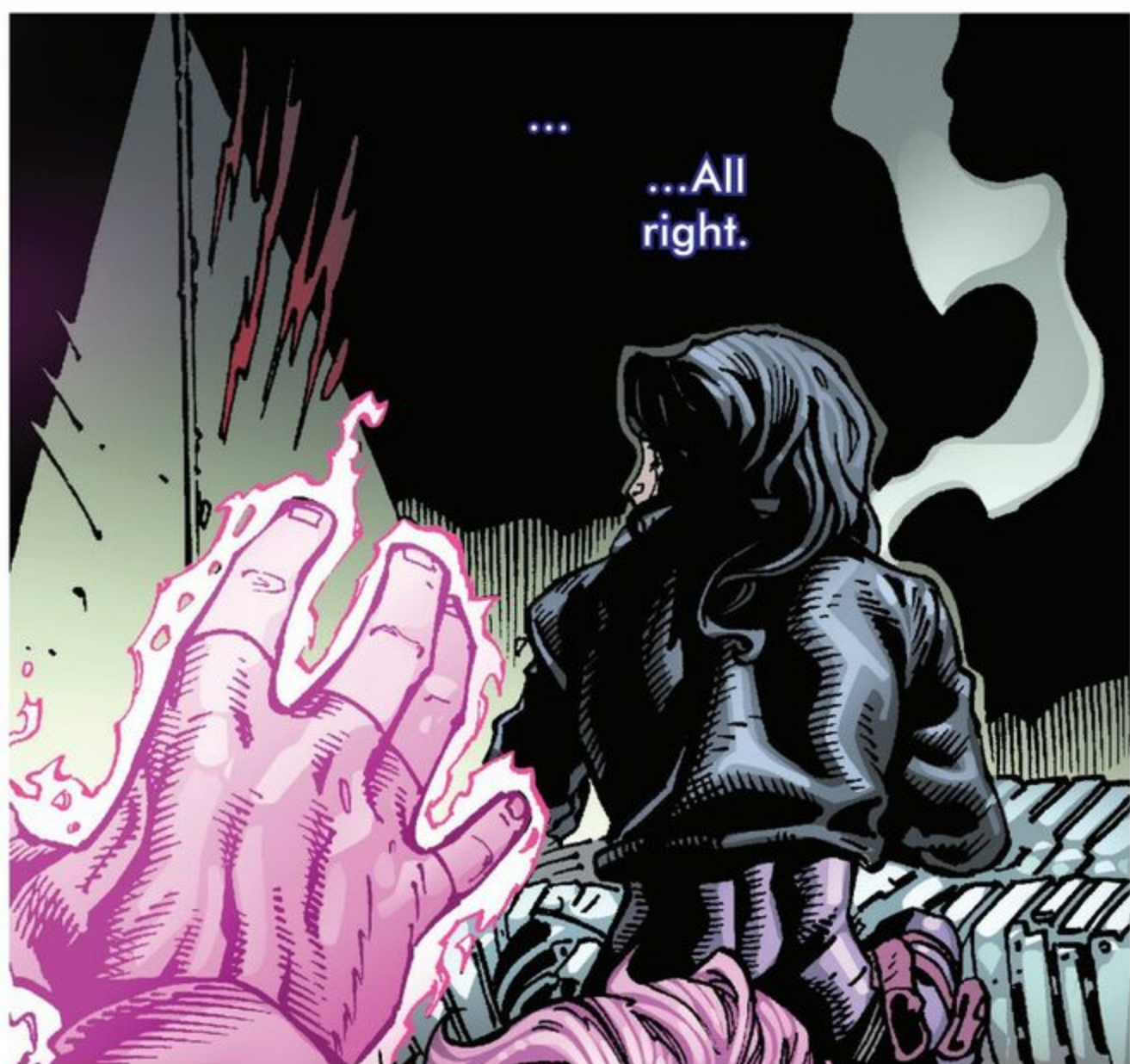
I'm strong
enough, but if I
power through,
Ben Liu dies.

I need someone
trained.

A
professional.



...All
right.



Let us put
things to
rights.



QUENTIN?
PSYLOCKE?

DID
YOU--? OH
GOD.

BEN LIU IS
AWAKE.

THEY'RE
CALLED 3K.

THEY'RE
MAKING NEW
MUTANTS.

THEY'VE FIGURED
OUT HOW TO
FORCE-ACTIVATE
X-GENES IN
ABDUCTED
FLATSCANS.

AND
CASSANDRA
NOVA IS ONE
OF THEM.



X-MAIL

Wait, you mean we're *still* talking about X-MEN #1, our debut issue?! Well, when you get as much mail for an issue as we have, you hate to see it all go unprinted! (This has nothing to do with the fact that X-MEN #2 has only just come out today, and we don't yet have any real mail on it. But I believe in you, readers!)

I LOVE THIS SO MUCH!!!!!!
I LOVE CYCLOPS AND KID
OMEGA AND THEY'RE BOTH
ON THE SAME TEAM!!!!!! I LOVE
THE DIALOGUE AND I COULD
NOT STOP LAUGHING!!!!!!
CAN'T WAIT FOR MORE
ISSUES!!!!!!

Ayda
Toronto, Ontario

Maybe we're projecting, Ayda, but we kinda get the sense that you enjoyed our first issue just a little bit.

Hello, X-Office!

I'm Robbie, I've been reading comics for about five years, but this is my first time writing in. I just wanted to say that I read the first issue of X-MEN, and it absolutely rocks! From the first issue alone, I can tell that Jed, Ryan, JP and Marte are going to deliver some incredible X-Men stories. This book just hit all the sweet spots for me. While I loved the Krakoa era, I'm also beyond excited to see what the new X-books have in store for us. Anyway, I just wanted to voice my enjoyment of the first issue and excitement for the future! Thanks, Team X!

Robbie Orr

P.S. As the self-appointed number-one Cyclops fan, I must compliment Ryan on Scott's new

look. It's awesome.

Thanks, Robbie! And Cyclops' new duds do look pretty cool! You don't think they make him seem too young, do you?

Dear X-Team,

First, thank you SO MUCH for bringing back the letters page. Second, I had a really fun time reading X-MEN #1, and I'm excited to read the rest of the new era too. Please tell Jed MacKay I really like how he writes Beast. I even enjoyed a character I normally don't like.

Thank you!

Conner

Aw, Conner, you really got us with that last sentiment! What's wrong with the Beast?

Just read the first issue of the new X-MEN relaunch, and I am very excited by what I'm seeing. I followed Jed from MOON KNIGHT to get here. I admit to having kinda fallen off during the Krakoa era, but I'm excited about how much this team feels like a bunch of outcasts. Almost feels like I'm hanging with my friends. You even have my favorite X-Man in Quentin Quire on the team, so I was always going to check this out. Thank you for giving Quentin the spotlight he deserves (really hoping for a solo book for him), and I hope to see him a lot. I'm really glad Beast feels like himself again.

Cody

Whew, Cody! Glad somebody around here likes the Beast! As for Quentin, he seems to be a

much more divisive character than we initially realized. Virtually every fan either loves him or hates him with intensity.

Hey, Jed and Ryan,

Huge recent X-Fan and Jedhead, I love MOON KNIGHT, DOCTOR STRANGE and AVENGERS and now your first issue on X-MEN, CONGRATS!

I wanted to ask what it has been like transitioning from your earlier solo outings to team books like AVENGERS and especially X-MEN--what is rewarding about these bigger teams, and what's challenging? What have you learned from the ensemble cast of the Midnight Mission and Sanctum Sanctorum?

Ryan, I've been watching your work since my friend gave me SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN, and I loved your work on MOON KNIGHT: BLACK, WHITE AND BLOOD. Super happy to see you take on the X-Men once again!

Keep up the great work, guys, and I can't wait to read every issue to come!

Jamie Fleming

I'm pretty certain that the term "Jedhead" is going to stick, Jamie--at least around these parts! And Jed kinda answered similar questions last issue, so hopefully you got your answers there!

Next time: It's a two-hander as Temper and Magik foray out into the savage wilderness of Merle, Alaska, on a quest to aid a local mutant in jeopardy! And we begin to learn just a little bit more about what went down on the "Iron Night" when the X-Men first came to town! See you there!

**Stay weird!
Tom B
8/15/24**

NEXT:

While the X-Men attempt to unravel the globe-spanning conspiracy arrayed against them, Temper and Magik work to investigate one closer to home. Merle, Alaska, holds more secrets than just the ones kept within the Factory, and the two must leave the safety of their headquarters and hit the streets for answers.





CONGRATULATES THE 2024 EISNER AWARD WINNERS!



**KELLY THOMPSON
& GURIHIRU**

Winner of
Best Humor Publication for
It's Jeff: The Jeff-Verse #1



PEACH MOMOKO

Winner of
Best Cover Artist for
Demon War: Scarlet Sin
and various alternate covers



X-MENTIONS

MARTIN BIRO, DREW BAUMGARTNER
& NOAH SHARMA – Assistant Editors
ANNALISE BISSA – Associate Editor
MARK BASSO & DARREN SHAN – Editors
TOM BREVOORT – Conductor of X

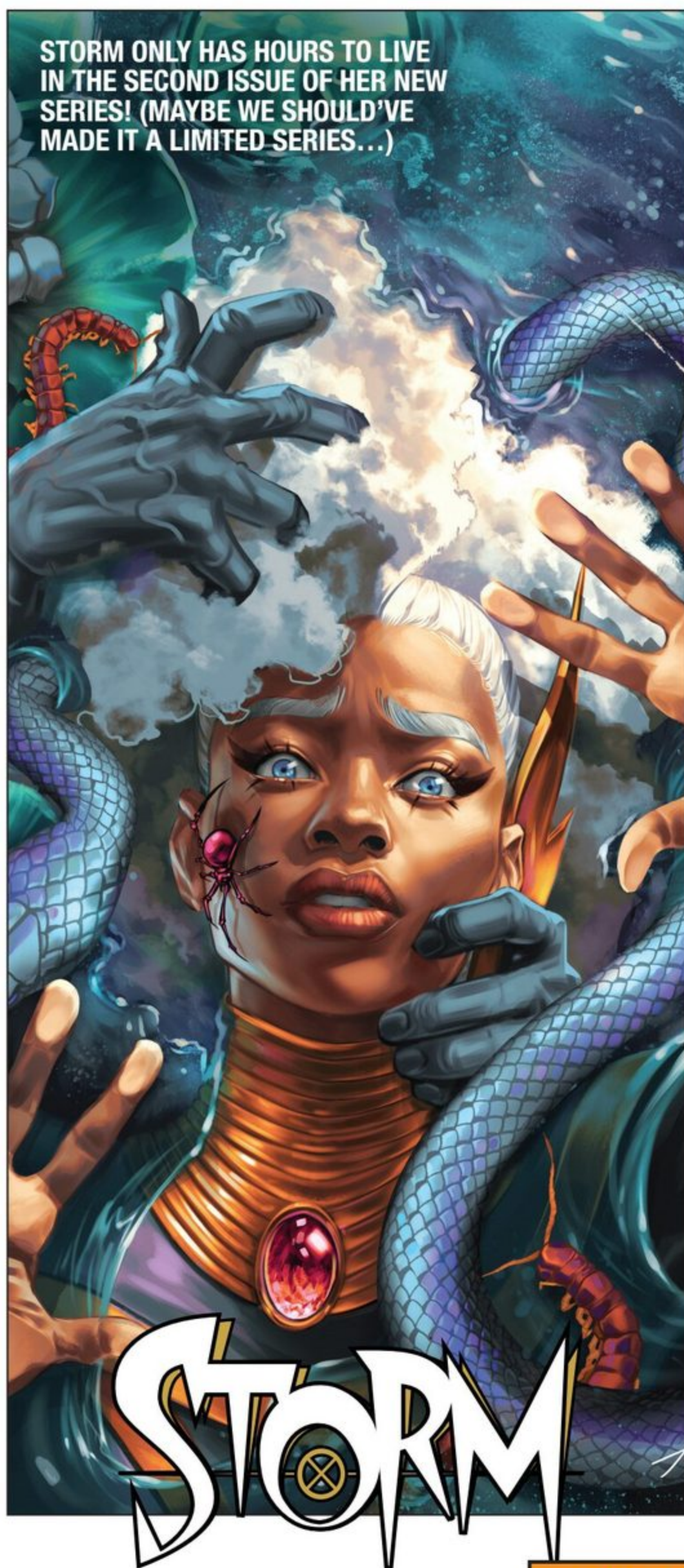
YOU OFFER SALVATION. I PREFER TO MAKE MY OWN.

- Raised as an assassin, Kwannon has made the choice to be a hero and a member of Cyclops' X-Men team. But there are still some jobs too dirty for the X-Men and some paths have to be walked alone. Exploding out of the pages of X-MEN, **Alyssa Wong** and **Vincenzo Carratù** take Psylocke into the underbelly of the Marvel Universe to punish those who prey on mutants in **PSYLOCKE #1**, next month!
- Mutant resurrection used to be an everyday thing. But it's not that way anymore. Attacked from all sides, with a team member's DEATH in the offing and struggling to accomplish their mission, X-Force fights to seal the latest and worst Fracture Node threatening the Earth in **X-FORCE #5** next month. And this time, somebody isn't coming back! Who is laying down their life? Only **Geoffrey Thorne** and **Marcus To** know for sure—and they're definitely not telling!
- **DAZZLER** and music go together like chocolate and peanut butter, so series writer **Jason Loo** has been going the extra mile by including the lyrics to an

original song in every issue! Starting with "Out and Proud" in issue #1 and followed by other songs full of references to Dazzler's glittering past—and shining future! So sing along!

- As you've been seeing with **PHOENIX**, **DAZZLER**, **STORM**, **MYSTIQUE** and now **PSYLOCKE**, we're attempting to place a greater emphasis on solo titles in the new X-Editorial Office. In the past, due in large part to the fact that the X-Men are a team concept, spin-off team series were the name of the game, and while there'd be the occasional solo project, apart from **WOLVERINE**, none of them proved able to go the distance. We're hoping to change all that. There are dozens of fascinating, multifaceted characters in the world of X who could and should easily be able to headline a series. So we're going to try a bunch of them to see if we can make any of them work. Doesn't mean we're out of the team-concept game by any means, but expect to see a continuing emphasis on the individual characters as we move forward—including [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]!





STORM ONLY HAS HOURS TO LIVE IN THE SECOND ISSUE OF HER NEW SERIES! (MAYBE WE SHOULD'VE MADE IT A LIMITED SERIES...)

QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

“Which X-Character Do You Feel The Strongest Connection To?”

STEPHANIE PHILLIPS – Jean Grey.

ALESSANDRO MIRACOLO – I was a big fan of the X-Men as a child, so I’m spoiled for choice. But among all the X-Men characters, the one I felt a strong bond with is Wolverine. But I also love Phoenix, Gambit, Jubilee, Cable—there are too many, sorry! I loved all of Wolverine’s stories, both solo and with the X-Men team.

DAVID CURIEL – It would be Magneto for me. I’ve always admired his clear, direct vision about the world he wants to achieve for the mutants.

MUREWA AYODELE – My answer to the question would be NIMROD.

LUCAS WERNECK – My answer is Jean Grey. She’s one of the most powerful characters in all the Marvel Universe and she’s the heart of the X-Men. Even so, she was underestimated for many years. So the fact that she is the Phoenix herself makes me love the concept of the character who comes back stronger and stronger!

MARTIN BIRO – It’s always been the position of all mutants that I’ve most connected with rather than individual characters—the struggle to survive, thrive and find your tribe in a world that hates and fears you.

ANNALISE BISSA – Storm, of course! As a character, she’s both utterly aspirational and completely, deeply, remarkably human. It’s impossible not to connect to her.

TOM BREVOORT – I’m sure most people are going to expect me to say the Blob. But my guy’s always been Cyclops, the quiet, doubt-plagued introvert who is stronger than he looks.

CHECKLIST ON SALE OCT. 2024

FROM THE ASHES

- ☐ **EXCEPTIONAL X-MEN #2** – Introducing Axo! Introducing Melee!
- ☐ **UNCANNY X-MEN #4** – Rogue fights alone against a darkness that is consuming her!
- ☐ **X-MEN #5** – Psychic rescue in progress!
- ☐ **X-MEN #6** – Magik and Temper take on a rescue mission in Merle, Alaska!
- ☐ **STORM #1** – Earth’s Mightiest Mutant in her own solo series!
- ☐ **WOLVERINE #2** – What is the secret of the new Wendigo?
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #3** – Murderous mission to the Moon!
- ☐ **PHOENIX #4** – Gorr the God Butcher is back! And guess who his next target is!

- ☐ **X-FORCE #4** – A Fracture Node at the Nexus of All Realities means X-Force has to confront the Man-Thing!
- ☐ **MYSTIQUE #1** – Here to remind you why she’s hated and feared!
- ☐ **SENTINELS #1** – They gave up their humanity to save the world!
- ☐ **NYX #4** – Prodigy runs afoul of the mysterious Krakoa!
- ☐ **DAZZLER #2** – In London, it’s up to Strong Guy and Domino to find out who’s targeting Dazzler!

THE BIG HITS

- ☐ **WOLVERINE: REVENGE #3** – Target: Deadpool and Omega Red!

- ☐ **DEADPOOL TEAM-UP #3** – The Hulk joins Deadpool’s dragon quest!

WORLD OF X

- ☐ **VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE #2** – Wolverine battles the Zombiote menace!
- ☐ **WOLVERINE: DEEP CUT #4** – Sabretooth and Sinister—an uneasy alliance and Wolverine’s peril!
- ☐ **NAMOR #4** – Seven kings battle to rule the seas—and the Sub-Mariner doesn’t look like he’s going to be coming out on top!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #19** – Storm and the Avengers face the challenge of Doctor Doom!

LETTERS PAGES! They’re making a comeback! And we want to hear from you! Email us at OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM and mark your messages “Okay to Print” for a chance to see them answered in future issues!



KAMIC RIDER MARIKA